IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend paragraphs **[0016]** and **[0017]** as follows:

[0016] We have found that cells derived from human retina cells, which have been immortalized by introduction of E1 sequences from an adenovirus, are a good production platform for recombinant IgA molecules. A method for immortalization of embryonic retina cells has been described in U.S. Patent 5,994,128, the contents of ~~which is~~ which are incorporated by this reference. Accordingly, an embryonic retina cell that has been immortalized with E1 sequences from an adenovirus can be obtained by that method. Other cells expressing E1A and E1B of an adenovirus can be prepared accordingly. Preferably, the cells of the invention are human cells. In certain embodiments, the cells are derived from retina cells. Preferably the cells are derived from primary cells. A cell according to the invention expresses at least the E1A region of an adenovirus, and preferably also the E1B region. E1A protein ~~protein~~ has transforming activity, while E1B protein has anti-apoptotic activities. The cells of the invention therefore preferably express E1A and E1B proteins of an adenovirus. In preferred embodiments, such cells are derived from PER.C6™ cells (human embryonic retinoblast cell line containing in its genome human adenovirus type 5 (Ad5) E1A and E1B coding sequences (nt. 459-3510) under the control of the human phosphoglycerate kinase (PGK) promoter), as deposited under ECACC number 96022940 on February 29, 1996 at the Centre for Applied Microbiology and Research Authority (European Collection of Animal Cell Cultures), Porton Down, Salisbury, Wiltshire SP4, OJG, United Kingdom, an International Depository Authority. Cells derived from a PER.C6™ cell according to the invention can be obtained by introduction of foreign genetic material encoding an IgA molecule into such PER.C6™ cells. Preferably, the cells are from a stable clone that can be selected and propagated according to standard procedures known to the person skilled in the art. A culture of such a clone is capable of producing recombinant IgA molecules. Cells according to the invention are preferably able to grow in suspension culture in serum-free medium.

[0017] It has previously been shown that PER.C6™ cells can express intact human IgG (U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 2003-0092160-A1, the contents of which is incorporated by this reference), that such IgGs have human-type glycans and the cells can be grown at large scale

(Jones *et al.*, 2003; Nichols *et al.*, 2002). We have found that these cells can efficiently produce an additional class of immunoglobulins having different characteristics. It was unexpectedly found that IgA can be produced in PER.C6™ cells at levels comparable to those for IgG.

Please amend paragraph **[0025]** as follows:

[0025] It is demonstrated herein that IgA can be expressed at high levels without the necessity for first amplifying the nucleic acid sequences encoding the IgA within the host cells. This has the advantage that no large copy numbers are required for efficient expression according to the invention, in contrast to previously described recombinant IgA production systems, where amplification was required to obtain levels of around 20 pg IgA per cell per day. PER.C6™ cells expressing IgG at high levels have been shown to contain usually between one and ten copies of the nucleic acid encoding the IgG per cell (Jones *et al.*, 2003).